

Message Text

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QUOTE

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ERDA FOR G.F. HELFRICH, IPI

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TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE NUCLEAR PLANT EXPORT TO USSR

REF: TOKYO 15895

FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF THE FRONT PAGE TOP STORY APPEAR-
ING IN THE JANUARY 26 ASAHI EVENING NEWS: QUOTE

THE ASAHI PLAYED UP THE PROBLEM OF PLANT EXPORTS TO THE USSR,
CARRYING THE HEADLINES "ATOMIC POWER GENERATION PLANT FACILITIES
TO BE EXPORTED TO USSR FOR THE FIRST TIME; HEADING TOWARD
NEGOTIATIONS ON YEN400-BILLION TRADE; 10 PLANT FACILITIES; SIX-
COMPANY MISSION LEAVES; POLITICAL AND BUSINESS CIRCLES ALSO TO
EXTEND SUPPORT." PARA.

THE ASAHI'S STORY SAID: TRADE NEGOTIATIONS FOR OUR COUNTRY'S
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EXPORTING TO THE USSR TEN ATOMIC POWER GENERATION PLANT

FACILITIES OF THE 1,000,000-KILOWATT CLASS HAVE BEEN PROGRESS-
ING, AND IN ORDER TO BOIL DOWN THE CONCRETE CONTENTS THEREOF,
A MISSION TO THE USSR (COMPOSED OF 14 PERSONS INCLUDING
MISSION LEADER YOSHIYUKI ISHIZAKI, CHIEF OF THE ATOMIC POWER
DEPARTMENT OF MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES) LEFT FOR MOSCOW ON
THE 25TH. THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ARE BASED ON THE ELECTRIC
POWER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, WHICH FORMS AN IMPORTANT PILLAR OF
THE SOVIET UNION'S TENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN WHICH WILL START FROM
THIS YEAR. WHEN HE VISITED THE USSR TOWARD THE END OF LAST
YEAR, KEIDANREN (FEDERATION OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS) CHAIR-
MAN TOSHIO DOKO TOLD SOVIET STATE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN PETROSYANTS THAT OUR COUNTRY IS PLACED IN A SET-UP
UNDER WHICH IT WILL BE ABLE TO EXTEND COOPERATION, INCLUDING
THE TAKING OF A FORWARD-LOOKING POSTURE TOWARD THE INDUCTION
OF JAPAN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK FUNDS. THUS, THE POSSIBILITY HAS
BECOME STRONGER THAT THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WILL DEVELOP
RAPIDLY. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME FOR OUR COUNTRY TO
EXPORT ATOMIC POWER GENERATION PLANT FACILITIES. PARA.
IN REGARD TO THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, THE SOVIET SIDE MADE
UNOFFICIAL SOUNDING-OUT EFFORTS THE YEAR BEFORE LAST, AND THE
NEGOTIATIONS TOOK CONCRETE SHAPE, WITH THE SOLIDIFICATION OF
THE CONTENTS OF THE TENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN. LAST SUMMER,
THEREFORE, WITH THE JAPAN ATOMIC INDUSTRY FORUM (CHAIRMAN:
HIROMI ARISAWA) AS THE WINDOW, TECHNICIANS OF SIX COMPANIES,
THAT IS, MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, HITACHI WORKS, TOKYO
SHIBAURA ELECTRIC, ISHIKAWAJIMA-HARIMA HEAVY INDUSTRIES,
FUJI ELECTRIC MACHINERY PRODUCTION, AND JAPAN STEEL, VISITED
THE USSR, AND ASKED IT ABOUT ITS DESIRES. THE MISSION, WHICH
LEFT FOR THE USSR ON THE 25TH, IS ALSO CENTERED ON THE TECH-
NICIANS FROM THE SIX COMPANIES, BUT IT ALSO INCLUDES OPERA-
TION CONNECTED PERSONS. IT WILL STAY IN MOSCOW FOR ABOUT TWO
WEEKS, AND WILL HOLD TALKS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOVIET
STATE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE, THE ELECTRIC POWER AND ELEC-
TRIFICATION MINISTRY, ETC. THE JAPANESE MISSION IS ALSO
CARRYING WITH IT A WRITTEN PRODUCTION PLAN, BASED ON THE
SOVIET SIDE'S SPECIFICATIONS, AND A WRITTEN ESTIMATE. IT IS
SURMISED THAT IF THE TALKS PROGRESS SMOOTHLY, THEN THE PROBLEM
OF CONCRETE EXPORT PRICES WILL BE DISCUSSED, TOO. PARA.
UNDER ITS TENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN, WHICH WILL START FROM THIS
YEAR, THE SOVIET SIDE HAS PROPOSED TO IMPORT A TOTAL OF TEN
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FACILITIES, AT THE RATE OF TWO FACILITIES A YEAR. THE ATOMIC
REACTORS INVOLVED ARE PRESSURE-WATER AND LIGHT-WATER TYPE
REACTORS. ON THE BASIS OF THE SOVIET SIDE'S SPECIFICATIONS,
THEY WILL BE PRODUCED BY THE ATOMIC ENERGY INDUSTRY CIRCLES
OF OUR COUNTRY. THEY WILL INCLUDE THE MAIN ATOMIC REACTOR
CONTAINER EQUIPMENT, EXCLUDING THE PART FOR DIRECTLY DELIVER-
ING NUCLEAR FUEL, STEAM-EMISSION DEVICES, AND OTHER KINDS OF
PERIPHERAL EQUIPMENT. THE OUTPUT OF POWER HAS STILL NOT BEEN

DECIDED CONCRETELY, BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE SOVIET SIDE INTENDS TO IMPORT POWER GENERATION PLANT FACILITIES WITH AN OUTPUT OF 1,000,000 TO 1,300,000 KILOWATTS. PARA.

WITH REGARD TO THE SOVIET SIDE'S PROPOSAL, OUR COUNTRY'S ATOMIC ENERGY INDUSTRY CIRCLES, AT THE BEGINNING, WERE CAUTIOUS, FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS, BESIDES THE FACT THAT THE CONCRETE CONTENTS OF THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOT CLEAR: (1) ATOMIC REACTORS HAVE HITHERTO BEEN TREATED AS COCOM-VWK(2) OUR COUNTRY'S ATOMIC

POWER GENERATION TECHNIQUES ARE BASED ON THE TECHNIQUES-INDUCTION CONTRACTS CONCLUDED WITH US MANUFACTURERS CONCERNED. HOWEVER, FORMER PRIME MINISTER TANAKA, WHO VISITED THE USSR IN 1973, HELD TALKS WITH PREMIER KOSYGIN, AT WHICH TIME, THE TWO COUNTRIES REACHED BASIC AGREEMENT ON THE PEACEFUL UTILIZATION OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND JOINT RESEARCH. MOREOVER, THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS THIS TIME CONCERN "PRODUCTION TO ORDER," WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT AS SET FORTH IN THE DESIGN ON PRESSURE-WATER-TYPE REACTORS, DEVELOPED BY THE SOVIET SIDE'S OWN EFFORTS. THEREFORE, IT WAS JUDGED THAT THERE WILL BE NO PARTICULAR OBSTACLES, FROM A TECHNICAL STANDPOINT, AND EVEN FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF COCOM RESTRICTIONS. THIS IS WHY A DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED TO TACKLE IT POSITIVELY. PARA.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOVERNMENT AND MITI ALSO INTEND TO SUPPORT THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS POSITIVELY, FROM THE STAND THAT THEY WILL STRENGTHEN JAPAN-SOVIET ECONOMIC COOPERATION, WHILE HAVING BIG EFFECTS ON THE PROMOTION OF EXPORTS BY THE ATOMIC ENERGY INDUSTRY, WHICH IS A KNOW-HOW-CONCENTRATED INDUSTRY. MITI ALSO THINKS THAT THERE IS NO PROBLEM, IN REGARD TO COCOM RESTRICTIONS. IT IS ALSO TAKING THE ATTITUDE OF ACCEPTING AN EXPORT APPLICATION IF IT IS LODGED AFTER THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ARE SETTLED. PARA.

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MOREOVER, AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE FACT THAT IT IS URGENTLY NECESSARY TO PROMOTE PLANT EXPORTS, AS A BIG PILLAR FOR BUSINESS RECOVERY, MITI IS SOLIDIFYING ITS JUDGEMENT THAT IT WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO INDUCT JAPAN EXPORT-IMPORT BANK FUNDS, WITH REGARD TO THE NEGOTIATIONS ON LARGE-SCALE TRADE AMOUNTING TO MORE THAN 400 BILLION YEN. IT IS THUS TAKING THE POSTURE OF CARRYING OUT ACTIVITIES TOWARD VARIOUS CIRCLES CONCERNED. PARA.

SOME QUARTERS ARE EXPRESSING A FEELING OF UNEASINESS AS TO THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE ATOMIC REACTORS TO BE EXPORTED WILL BE USED. HOWEVER, THE USSR IS A COUNTRY WHICH HAS RATIFIED THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY; THEREFORE, IT SEEMS THAT SUCH UNEASINESS HAS DISAPPEARED. (FULL TRANSLATION) END QUOTE. HODGSON

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